Construction of houses for fishermen

457. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are continuing the scheme of construction of houses to houseless fishermen under Centrally sponsored scheme, Development of Model Fishermen Village during 2004-05;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in releasing the balance Central share; and

(c) the time by which this balance share is likely to be released to Karnataka Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) On receipt of utilization certificates/physical progress report for the earlier releases made from time to time for construction of houses for fishermen sanctioned in 1999, the balance Central share of 134.875 lakh has since been released to State Government of Karnataka during 2004-05. A sum of Rupees 100.00 lakh has also been released during 2004-05 for construction of 5000 fishermen houses under Matsaya Ashraya (Phase-II) to the State Government of Karnataka. Due to paucity of funds the release of 2nd installment will be considered in the year 2005-06.

Shortfall in grain production

458. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since revised its target for grain production this year downwards by about 20 million tonnes for both kharif and rabi crops;

(b) whether the pulse production is also set to record a lower output by about two million tonnes below the set target of 15.30 million tonnes;

(c) whether the coarse cereal production is also falling below targets over the years; and

(d) if so, the proposed measures to meet the shortfall?